



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#15/Amdt A  
12-8-03  
[Signature]

In re Request for Continued  
Examination of patent application of:)

Mark G. LUEHRMANN, et al. ) Before the Examiner  
Serial No. 09/856,745 )  
Filed September 24, 2001 ) Bradley J. Van Pelt  
CONNECTING ROD WITH ) Group Art Unit 3682  
PROFILED BORE FOR )  
INCREASED LOAD ) November 25, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on  
November 25, 2003  
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James M. Durlacher  
Name of Registered Representative  
*James M. Durlacher*  
Signature  
November 25, 2003  
Date of Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Box RCE  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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DEC 03 2003  
**GROUP 3600**

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above identified Request  
for Continued Examination.